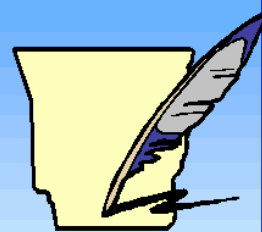




The Natural State Scribe



Winter 2003/2004

Welcome! A word from the editor:

Welcome to the second edition of the Natural State Scribe. I know this edition has been a long time coming and for that I feel I must apologize. It turns out yours truly was out of the office for a large part of the summer. You may be asking yourself, "Well, where was he then?" That question will be answered inside in one of the articles. Without any more fanfare, here is the latest issue of the scribe. As always, please feel free to send me any comments, questions, suggestions,



concerns and even your criticisms. I am very interested in hearing what you think about it and how you think it can be improved upon. Feel free to e-mail me at:

Joseph.Goudsward@noaa.gov

I look forward to hearing from you.

Joe Goudsward
Editor

TWO OF A KIND??

A common question that arises when talking about snow is "can any two snowflakes be identical"? While many snowflakes may look alike. The answer is **no**, no two snowflakes are exactly the same. Too many factors affect the structure of the flake. Since the flake is constantly changing, the odds are astronomical that anyone could find two identical flakes.



How do snowflakes form you ask? A snowflake will form in a cloud which is

composed of water vapor. When the temperature of the cloud drops below freezing, water will change into ice. Several factors will affect snowflake formation including air currents, temperature, humidity and the amount of dust or dirt in the air. Snowflake formation is a constant process. A snowflake may encounter numerous environmental conditions as it falls through the sky, sometimes melting it, sometimes refreezing it but always changing its structure.

Winter begins

**1:04 A.M. CST
Dec. 22**

"There is really no such thing as bad weather, only different kinds of good weather"

John Ruskin

"Some people are weather wise, but most are otherwise."

Benjamin Franklin

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